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JUL 10 2007

MAT-8430US

Application No.: 10/600,972
Amendment Dated: July 10, 2007
Reply to Office Action of: January 12, 2007

Remarks/Arguments:

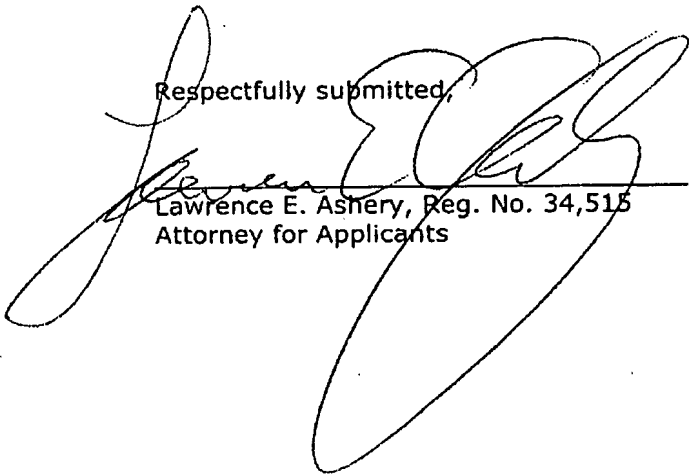
Applicants' acknowledge with thanks the courtesy extended to their representatives during the interview of June 28, 2007.

During the course of the interview, Applicants' representatives discussed the location of the network security managing section. In figure 1, the network security managing section 12 and network connecting section 13 are both located on one side of a firewall. The home server 15 is located on **another side** of the firewall. This feature is recited in amended claims 1 and 16 as "*network connecting section...on one side of a firewall...home server is on another side of said firewall...network security managing section on a same side of the firewall as said network connecting section*". Thus, the network security managing section and home server are on **opposite sides of the firewall**.

Furthermore, in the interview, Applicants' representatives discussed the role of the network security managing section as it relates to changing the settings of the firewall. In conventional systems, firewall setting changes may be initiated by the home server. In Applicants' amended claims, however, changes to the firewall settings are initiated by the network security managing section "*network security managing section initiates setting changes of said firewall*". Thus, the network security managing section is **initiating the setting changes of the firewall**.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above identified application is in the condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Dated: July 10, 2007

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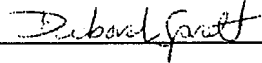
MAT-8430US

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office: Fax No. **(571) 273-8300** on the date shown below.

July 10, 2007

Deborah Spratt



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